

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

1. An optical scanning device directing a light beam emitted from a light source to a mirror of a mechanical deflector through a first optical system, deflecting the light beam in a main scanning direction by causing the light beam to be reflected by a mirror surface of said mirror, the angle of said mirror surface changing due to rotation of said mirror, and directing the deflected light beam through a second optical system to a surface to be scanned moving in a sub-scanning direction, said light source, first optical system, mechanical deflector and second optical system being contained in a housing,

wherein said mechanical deflector is directly mounted to said house, and, also, material of said housing has heat conductivity smaller than that of a part of said mechanical deflector in contact with said housing.

2. The optical scanning device as claimed in claim 3, wherein said mechanical deflector is covered by a cover having an optical window, and, thereby, an air flow occurring due to rotation of said mirror is kept within said cover.

3. The optical scanning device as claimed in claim 3, wherein a cooling part forcibly cooling said mechanical deflector is provided.